



OAKHAM
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
YEAR ENDING
31ST, DECEMBER, 1964.

OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1964

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-sixth Annual Report dealing with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population.. .. .	11,540
Number of inhabited houses	2,957
Rateable Value	£330,984
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 1,310

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

The Oakham Rural District, which covers over half of the County of Rutland, is largely agricultural in character, but ironstone mining is carried out in some of the more northerly parishes. Two large Aerodromes have been built by the Air Ministry at Cottesmore and Edith Weston and there is a small R.A.F. Site in the parish of Greetham. One of H.M. Open Prisons is situated in the parish of Burley, about a mile to the north of Oakham. Except for a brewery at Langham, there are no major industries, and by its geographical position with no large towns in close proximity, the District continues to retain its rural character practically undisturbed by urban development.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live-Births - Legitimate	129	113	242
Illegitimate	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>136</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>252</u>

Rate for District

Birth Rate	21.8
Death Rate	8.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	43.6

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	1
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6
Coronary Disease, Angina	2	8
Other Heart Disease	9	9
Other Circulatory Disease	3	2
Pneumonia	5	7
Bronchitis	5	4
Other Disease of Respiratory System	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	6	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1
All Other Accidents	3	2
Suicide	-	1
	<u>49</u>	<u>53</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health. John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acted for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined District in which this District was included.

Public Health Inspector.

G.E. Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods; & Certificates in General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering.

The Public Health Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester:-

Nose and Throat Swabs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Faeces and Urines	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Sputa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Vaginal & Cervical swabs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Waters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
										<u>33</u>

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1964.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases</u> <u>Notified.</u>	<u>Cases Admitted</u> <u>to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Deaths.</u>
Measles	26	-	-
Whooping Cough	11	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Under</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>65 and</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Over
Measles	-	5	1	3	2	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	3	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

I am pleased to report that no new cases were notified during the year.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Number of Samples taken from analysis:-

(a) from wells	7
(b) from piped supply. .. .	2

Results from Samples taken:-

(a) from wells:-	Satisfactory.. ..	4
	Unsatisfactory.. ..	3
(b) from piped supply:-	Satisfactory.. ..	2
	Unsatisfactory.. ..	-

Number of wells:-

(a) closed.. .. .	1
(b) cleansed, repairs etc.. .. .	2

Number of cases in which piped supply was provided.. .. . 78

Number of Parishes with piped water supply:-

(a) from public mains. .. .	24
(b) from private reservoirs .. .	2

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply 2

During the year seventy-eight additional water connections to houses were made and piped water supplies are now available to practically the whole of the dwellings in the Rural District. Only two parishes with very few houses, namely Leighfield and Martinsthorpe, are without public or private piped water supplies.

There are private water supplies to thirty-one properties at Eggleton and Gunthorpe, and Cottesmore Aerodrome has its own water supply to five-hundred and thirty-two houses at the Married Quarters there.

Water is provided to over two thousand premises in the remaining twenty-four parishes from the mains of the Leicester City Corporation which acquired this Council's water undertaking in 1959. Existing supplies in the northerly parishes of the District have been augmented by the Corporation from its mains in adjoining Districts. The Leicester City Corporation has also taken over the responsibility of supplying water to the North Luffenham R.A.F. Station, (which includes a large number of properties in the parish of Edith Weston), and of providing a reserve supply for Cottesmore Aerodrome.

Water supplies in the District generally can be regarded as quite satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Analyses are made regularly by the staff of the Leicester City Water Department, and no case of Plumb-solvency has ever been reported in this area. The fluoride content of the water supplies in any part of the District is less than 0.2 p.p.m. and the Council has already decided that no objection be raised to any proposal for the addition of fluoride to water supplies in this area.

Particulars of the various piped supplies, as required by the Ministry of Health, are as follows:-

WATER SUPPLIES.
OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Name of Parishes.		No. of dwellings with Piped Water Supply.	Farm and Other Connections.
ASHWELL	L	87	20
BARLEYTHORPE	L	42	7
BARROW	L	22	10
BRAUNSTON	L	106	19
BROOKE	L	4	5
BURLEY	L	87	33
COTTESMORE	L	135	32
EDITH WESTON	L	368	12
EGLETON	P	23	4
EMPINGHAM	L	217	23
EXTON	L	213	44
GREETHAM	L	153	20
GUNTHORPE	P	8	1
HAMBLETON	L	51	28
HORN	L	5	3
LANGHAM	L	290	34
LEIGHFIELD	-	-	-
LYNDON	L	32	6
MANTON	L	92	16
MARKET OVERTON	L	136	26
MARTINSTHORPE	-	-	-
NORMANTON	L	13	1
STRETTON	L	37	12
TEIGH	L	25	14
THISTLETON	L	30	11
TICKENCOTE	L	16	2
WHISSENDINE	L	211	32
WHITWELL	L	20	10
COTTESMORE AERODROME	A.M.	532	-
		<u>2955</u>	<u>425</u>

L. Leicester City Water Department Supply.
P. Private Piped Supply.
A.M. Air Ministry Supply.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area - continued.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of Cesspools constructed during the year.....	Nil
Number of Cesspools abolished during the year.....	7
Total number on 31st December, 1964.....	277

Attention was given during 1964 to the existing sewers and village drains of the District and maintenance and general repairs carried out as necessary. The modern sewerage systems and sewage disposal works already installed at Braunston, Cottesmore and Greetham, Edithweston, Empingham, Exton, Langham, Manton, Market Overton and Whissendine continued to function satisfactorily, but in view of the accelerated rate of building in the village of Langham and the considerable extension of the Married Quarters at the Cottesmore R.A.F. Station, the Council's Consulting Engineers have been requested to submit schemes for the enlargement of the sewage works serving those particular parishes.

Tenders have now been invited for the extension of the Langham Sewage Works, one of which has been accepted by the Council and approved by the Ministry, and this work is to be put in hand early in 1965. Further consultation has taken place between representatives of the Air Ministry and the Council regarding the extent of the alterations required to the Cottesmore Sewerage Works which serve the R.A.F. Station there; and the Council's Engineers have been instructed to continue with the preparation of the scheme in the light of new information concerning future development there which has now been received. In addition tenders for the provision of a new sewerage system and sewage disposal works for the village of Ashwell are to be invited shortly.

The sewers of two small villages, namely Barlethorpe and Eggleton, which are both situated in close proximity to the town of Oakham, are now connected to the disposal works of the Oakham Urban District Council where the sewage receives final treatment.

The Council have given very careful consideration to the possibility of sewerage the villages of Hambleton and Stretton, and in connection with which schemes have already been drawn up but were deferred owing to the heavy costs likely to be involved due to the scattered nature of the properties in these parishes. While no further action is to be taken for the time being at Stretton, a modified scheme for part of Hambleton is still under consideration.

During 1964 some further conversions of pail-lavatories to water-closets were carried out at shown in the figures given below:-

Water Closets.. .. .	2791
Pail Closets	166
Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year:-	
Pail Closets	22

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council's arrangements for fortnightly collections of refuse by direct labour from houses in the villages of the District, and weekly collections at the Married Quarters at the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edithweston were again carried out without undue interruption during the course of 1964, and once again, very few complaints in connection with this service were lodged.

Tipping is being carried out in a disused ironstone cutting at Barrow and on a site adjoining the Lyndon Road at Manton. Use is also being made for this purpose of a former stone quarry at Empingham. During 1964, the refuse tip at Cottesmore was closed, and the site levelled and reinstated before being finally handed back to the former occupiers of the land.

Collections of night-soil have again been carried out by direct labour in most of the unsewered parishes in the District, and the Council have arranged for the emptying by Contractors of the village septic tank at Ashwell, and will continue to do so until the new sewerage system to be installed there is in full operation. In addition several septic tanks situated on the Council's housing estates have been attended to by Contractors from time to time.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including those given elsewhere in this report.

Total number of complaints received,. 457

Total number of defects or nuisances discovered,. 435

<u>Nature of Inspections.</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Dwelling Houses	655	969
Tents, Vans, Etc.	25	64
Slaughter Houses	Nil	Nil
Dairies and Cowsheds	1	14
Offensive Trades	Nil	Nil
Animal Keeping	11	12
Workshops, Etc.	26	87
Shops	34	135
Other premises	279	714
	<u>1031</u>	<u>1995</u>

The Public Health Inspector made 1248 visits to the various parishes of the District. In addition 4 visits were made outside the District.

Notice.

<u>Preliminary.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Others.</u>
Outstanding 1st January	-	1
Issued during the year	357	78
Complied with during year	357	79
Statutory action necessary	17	2
Outstanding 31st December	-	-
<u>Statutory</u>		
Outstanding 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	17	2
Complied with during year	17	2
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December	-	-

Shops

34 Inspections and 135 re-visits were made to shops in the District during the year and action was taken to improve the sanitary arrangements at two shops.

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year	25
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued	25
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during summer months	420

Regulated Buildings.

	<u>Number in District</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.	160	89

The figures shown under Camping Sites above do not include caravans or other temporary dwellings used on the local Aerodromes, which are subject to the direct control of the Government Department concerned.

During 1964 no further sites in the area were licensed for Camping purposes, although applications to increase the number of vans on existing sites were received and approved.

Apart from several groups of vans at one of the R.A.F. Stations, the only large encampment authorised in the District is at Langham, used chiefly during the summer months, but with some caravan-dwellings occupied during the whole of the year. Suitable sanitary accommodation and other facilities have been provided by the owner of the land to the satisfaction of the Council, and no complaints concerning the premises have been received from any of the occupants there.

PESTS CONTROL.

A Pests Control Officer is employed jointly by this and four other nearby District Councils to deal with any infestations by rats reported in the area, and this arrangement is still working quite satisfactorily.

HOUSING.

Action under the Housing Acts during 1964 resulted in eight premises being closed as unfit for habitation and four houses being demolished.

During the course of the year, payment of forty-eight improvement grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 towards the costs of modernising private properties were approved subject to satisfactory completion of the works by the owners.

The total number of houses and bungalows owned by the Council at the end of 1964 was four hundred and twenty-six, of which one-hundred-and-nine were built prior to 1940.

The number of applicants for Council Houses on the Housing Register at the close of the year was one-hundred-and-sixty-six, of which forty-five were from persons living outside of the District, and nineteen from tenants of Council Houses within the area who wished to exchange tenancies.

PROVISIONS OF NEW HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

During 1964, twelve houses and five bungalows at Whissendine, and a further six houses and four bungalows at Market Overton, were completed and let by the Council.

Thirty-five houses were built by private persons during 1964. Forty-one houses were also constructed by the Air Ministry at the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston where the Married Quarters are being enlarged.

The Council has now acquired additional sites for house-building purposes at Cottesmore, Greetham and Empingham, and it is anticipated that building works there will be put in hand early in 1965.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises) on Register..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of inspections of premises..	..	..	..	..	14
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year..	..	..	..	..	-
Contraventions remedied during year	..	..	..	..	-
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st December..	..	..	..	..	1

No ice-cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are twenty-six premises registered by the Council from which pre-packed ice-cream is sold.

Meat and other Foods.

Nineteen inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores and Preparing Rooms, and seventy-five inspections and re-inspections of premises where food other than meat was kept or prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this District is by burning.

Since slaughtering at the last three remaining slaughter-houses in this District ceased on June 30th, 1963 (as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the provisions of the Slaughterhouse Act of 1958), all meat sold from the six butchers' shops in this District has been obtained from animals killed elsewhere, and no difficulty seems to have arisen in maintaining a constant supply.

During 1964 it was necessary to arrange for the condemnation and destruction of 4954 small jars of salads, some of which contained Benzoic Acid (a prohibited ingredient under the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962), and also infringed the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960.

The whole of the shops in the District were inspected and many reinspected during the course of 1964 for the purpose of securing compliance with the above Regulations. It was again found that, generally speaking, the shops were very well maintained and the requirements relating to the handling of foods were being observed in a satisfactory manner. Alterations of the drainage arrangements at one of the shops had to be carried out following the installation of a new sewerage system in the village.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was unnecessary during 1964 to take legal action to remove any elderly persons to suitable Homes under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. Enquiries were, however, carried out in several cases where information was received that old people might be living in difficult circumstances, but in no instance was direct intervention by this Council required to secure the removal of persons concerned.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

During 1964, twenty-six applications for registration under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 were received, and preliminary inspections for the purposes of enforcement of the regulations were made. Due to the absence of any large industrial undertakings in this District, the premises concerned were practically without exception of very small size, and included no large wholesale shops, warehouses or other similar establishments.

I have, the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1961.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	No. on Reg- ister. (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(1) Factories in which Sec- tions 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Loc- al Authorities	1	5	1	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	4	18	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' Premises)	21	90	4	-
TOTAL.. ..	26	113	4	-

2 - Cases in which Defects were found:-

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspec- tor, (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor, (5)	Number of cases in which pro- secutions were in- stituted. (6)
Want of Cleanli- ness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) (b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork
(Section 133 and 134)

Nature of Work.	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council. (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served. (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
Wearing apparel. Making etc.	22	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	2	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers.	5	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and Upholstery.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	29	-	-	-	-	-

